

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 11, 18-20, 50-55, 60, and 67-71 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 50 are amended. No new matter is added.

Claims 1 and 50 are amended to better recite the claimed features. Support for the claims is found in the disclosure as originally filed, for example at paragraphs [0034] and [0045] of the specification.

For the following reasons, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claim rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-7, 11, 18-20, 50-55, 60 and 67-69 are rejected under U.S.C. § 103(a) over Mages et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,035,329), in view of Lamkin et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2006/0117344), and further in view of Kanazawa et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,580,870).

Also, claims 70 and 71 are rejected under U.S.C. § 103(a) over Mages, Lamkin, and Kanazawa, and further in view of Tsumagari et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0161615).

The rejections are respectfully traversed.

It is respectfully submitted that Mages, Lamkin and Kanazawa, either individually or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest a method for connecting a media player to a remote server, the method comprising checking whether connecting to the remote server is required when reproducing data recorded on the storage medium by transmitting version information related to the data to the remote server, as recited in claim 1.

Additionally, it is respectfully submitted that Mages, Lamkin and Kanazawa, either individually or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest each and every feature of claim 50, which recites similar features of varying scope.

Instead of checking whether connecting to the remote server is required when reproducing data recorded on the storage medium by transmitting version information related to the data to the remote server, Mages simply discloses communicating with a service-provider to seek permission from the service-provider for downloading of the missing, critical data, but without by way of transmitting version information related to the data.

Specifically, Mages discloses that the Hyper-DVD player reads a parental code on the DVD-ROM (block 50), and then reads a country code to determine if the code or codes indicate that the DVD-ROM is a Hyper-DVD or a non-Hyper DVD-ROM (decision-block 54). If the codes indicate a non-Hyper-DVD-ROM, but a regular DVD-ROM, then the Hyper-DVD-player proceeds to the play it (block 56). However, if the code or codes indicate a Hyper-DVD, then the software of the Hyper-DVD-player communicates with the service-provider (block 60), such as an Internet server or cable-TV provider, and the like. The Hyper-DVD then seeks permission from the service-provider the downloading of the missing, critical data (block 62). After the Hyper-DVD player of the customer's computer or cable box, has received the missing, critical data, the critical data is merged with the crippled, or encrypted, data on the Hyper-DVD-ROM (block 64). Then, the uncrippled software of the Hyper-DVD-ROM is read by the DVD-player for playback (block 66) (see col. 4, lines 20-41 and FIGS. 3B and 3C of Mages).

Thus, Mages simply disclose the Hyper DVD-ROM seeking permission for the download, without transmitting any type of data, let alone the recited version information related to the data.

Accordingly, Mages is additionally deficient. Lamkin and Kanazawa, as well as Tsumagari, fail to remedy at least this additional deficiency of Mages. Thus, claims 1 and 50 are patentable over the applied references and their combination.

The respective dependent claims are also patentably distinguishable over the applied references and their combination for at least the reasons discussed above and/or for the additional features they recite.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

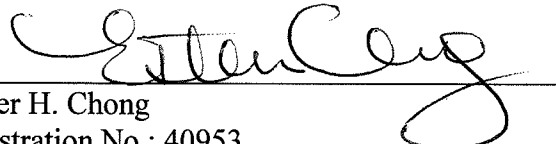
In view of the above amendment and/or remarks, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Seth S. Kim, Registration No. 54,577, at the telephone number of the undersigned below to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Director is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge any fees required during the pendency of the above-identified application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448.

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Respectfully submitted,

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